

**Education, Planning and Outreach Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**4000 West Broad Street**  
**Richmond, Virginia 23230**

**April 1, 2008, 7:30am**

Present: Richard E. Railey, Jr., Chairman, Sherry S. Crumley and Mary Louisa Pollard;  
Absent: Randy Kozuch; Director: Robert W. Duncan; Senior Staff: Gary Martel,  
Colonel Dabney “Dee” Watts, Charlie Sledd.

Mr. Railey, Chairman, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:30am.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Railey stated the minutes of the February 6, 2008 meeting have been distributed for review. Mr. Railey called for a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. **Mrs. Crumley made the motion to approve the minutes as submitted and Mrs. Pollard seconded. Ayes: Crumley, Pollard and Railey.**

**Comments from the Director:** Mr. Bob Duncan stated that the Information and Education Section now reports directly to the Director. Ms. Julia Dixon, the Media Relations Coordinator, will soon be relocating her office to be next to the director’s office suite; Mr. Lee Walker is serving as the Acting Director for the I&E Section. The section has been busy preparing the Outdoor Report, press releases and news articles for *Virginia Wildlife Magazine*. Mr. Duncan is looking forward to the I&E work session at the next Committee Meeting. During the work session, goals and objectives for the Information and Education Section will be developed to help carry out the mission of the Agency.

**Proposed Revisions to the DGIF Mission Statement:** The Chairman stated that during the last meeting, the committee discussed the revision of the agency mission statement to include a reference to the constitutional amendment and to also include language that would focus on the agency’s educational outreach programs and activities.

The staff presented to the committee the following recommended changes:

**MISSION STATEMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES**  
**PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

To manage Virginia’s wildlife and inland fish to maintain optimum populations of all species to serve the needs of the Commonwealth;

To provide opportunity for all to enjoy wildlife, inland fish, boating and related outdoor recreation and **to work diligently to safeguard the rights of the people to hunt, fish and harvest game as provided for in the Constitution of Virginia;**

To promote safety for persons and property in connection with boating, hunting and fishing;

**To provide educational outreach programs and materials that foster an awareness of an appreciation for Virginia’s fish and wildlife resources and hunting, fishing, and boating opportunities.**

After a brief discussion on the amendment, the Chairman called for the motion to approve the staff’s recommended changes. **Mrs. Crumley made the motion to adopt the proposed amendment as presented to the committee. Motion Seconded by Mrs. Pollard. Ayes: Crumley, Railey and Pollard**

The Chairman called for any additional discussion and the Director stated that after reviewing the proposed amendment, he had received a staff suggestion to add a reference to “**habitat(s)**” in the educational outreach language, possibly after the word “resources.” With this change, the amendment to the amendment would read:

**MISSION STATEMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES  
PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

To manage Virginia’s wildlife and inland fisheries to maintain optimum populations of all species to serve the needs of the Commonwealth;

To provide opportunity for all to enjoy wildlife, inland fish, boating and related outdoor recreation **and to work diligently to safeguard the rights of the people to hunt, fish and harvest game as provided for in the Constitution of Virginia;**

To promote safety for persons and property in connection with boating, hunting and fishing;

**To provide educational outreach programs and materials that foster an awareness of an appreciation for Virginia’s fish, wildlife resources, **their habitats** and hunting, fishing, and boating opportunities.**

**After a brief discussion, the Chairman called for a motion and vote to amend the original amendment to include “their habitats” in the proposed amendment as recommended by staff. Mrs. Crumley made the motion to amend the original amendment as presented by staff to include: “their habitats”. Motion seconded by Mrs. Pollard. Ayes: Railey, Pollard and Crumley.**

**Additional Comments/Discussion:** The Chairman called for any additional comments and/ or discussion from the Committee Members.

Mrs. Crumley stated during the Outdoor Writers Conference she was approached by an attendee to see if Science Standards of Learning (SOL) information could be incorporated into the Wildlife Calendar to use in the classroom. If this could be achieved, it would be a great teaching tool for the teachers and could possibly be a way to seek corporate funding to off-set the printing expense of the calendar each year. Ms. Crumley requested a follow-up report during the work session.

Mrs. Pollard wanted to know if the boating safety courses included an educational piece on protecting the waters from pollution, other environmental issues, etc. Mr. Sledd stated that this information is required by the National Boating Education Standards and is provided to students in all NASBLA approved courses.

**Next Meeting Date:** The Chairman called for discussion on setting the next meeting date for the Committee. He reminded the committee members that this would be the work session with the Director and Information and Education Section. The next meeting will be held on May 19, 2008 beginning at 9:00am.

There being no additional business, the chairman called for a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Crumley made the motion to adjourn. Mrs. Pollard seconded. Ayes: Railey, Pollard and Crumley.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth B. Drewery  
Board Secretary